

Residential Knox-Box Loan Program

What is a Knox-Box? Well, a Knox-Box is a 4” by 5” safe-like device that is designed as a rapid entry system allowing secure emergency access for the fire department. When a fire breaks out or there is a medical emergency, a Knox-Box device allows for immediate entry into buildings and properties without forced entry damage or delay.



The residential Knox-Boxes are designed to be installed overtop a resident’s front entry door. When installed, an extra key for the front door (provided by the resident) is inserted into the Knox-Box. The Lackawanna Fire Department will then secure the Knox-Box with a unique key. Only the Lackawanna Fire Department has this key, and it is securely located in the Department’s fire apparatus. If an emergency arises, the responding crews are able to access the Knox Box for the house keys to allow entry into the house without forcing entry or waiting for a key holder.

The Residential Knox-Box Loan Program is only open to residents of the City of Lackawanna with existing medical or physical conditions which render them unable to open a locked door in an emergency. However, due to the limited quantities of Knox-Boxes the department has for the program (20), priority will be given to the senior citizens of the community and those persons with special needs. All Knox-Boxes purchased for the loan program are the property of the Lackawanna Fire Department and as residents participating in the program no longer need the Knox-Box, Fire Department personnel will retrieve them and place them back into inventory for future distribution.

If you are interested in applying for the Residential Knox-Box Loan Program or for information on purchasing your own Residential Knox-Box, please contact Fire Chief Ralph Galanti at 827-6437.